

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An actuator which transforms rotational driving

force of a rotational driving source into a linear motion through a driving force

transmitter and moves a slider axially to transport a workpiece,

the actuator comprising:

a body in which the driving force transmitter is located;

a slider which is partially exposed from a slit extending along the

length of the body and moves along the axis of the body;

a pair of magnetic bodies which extend along the slit by a prescribed

length and face each other with the slider between them; and

a magnetic fluid which is indirectly held between the pair of magnetic

bodies, wherein only the magnetic fluid closes closing the slit, and is split by

the slider as the slider moves.

2. (Currently Amended) The actuator as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the

[[a]] slit is provided between a first cover of the body and a second cover which

is located away from the first cover by a prescribed distance virtually vertically.

3. (New) The actuator as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the pair of mag-

netic bodies are disposed next to the body and away from the magnetic fluid.

4. (New) An actuator which transforms rotational driving force of a rota-

tional driving source into a linear motion through a driving force transmitter

and moves a slider axially to transport a workpiece,

the actuator comprising:

a body in which the driving force transmitter is located, the body hav-

ing a pair of walls defining a slit therebetween;

a slider which is partially exposed from the slit extending along the

length of the body and moves along the axis of the body;

a pair of magnetic bodies disposed along the walls away from the slit

and extending along the walls by a prescribed length, and face each other

with the slider between them; and

a magnetic fluid disposed between the walls, and only the magnetic

fluid closing the slit.